

## Extraordinary meeting

### Aldridge Shed steering committee and trustees meeting

Present: Alan, Ivor, Mark, Ian, Barrie, Trevor, Gail and Jude

Apologises: Derek

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

#### Option to apply for Extended Lottery grant (£100k per year for 5 years).

With the above in mind, committee members, trustees and members in general have expressed that they are happy with what we have done so far. Everyone has gelled and it is of concern that should we apply and be successful in the above lottery grant then the shed would seek larger premises which would bring with it a need for more commitment from more people, a significant increase in running costs and added pressure. Consequently it was felt that this would detract from what has already been achieved and stop the 'shed' being a fun place to be.

Barrie told us that he had recently spoken to the chairman of a large shed based in Leeds that had gone down the route of obtaining large premises and ended up having to employ a sales manager and the 'shed' had, had to become effectively a business, to survive. They were in fact looking to reduce in size and return to being a more manageable Shed.

It was discussed and it was proposed that for the foreseeable future, things would stay as they are and evolve in an organic manner. With this in mind further capacity should be sought from what we already have i.e. encouraging more people to use the afternoon sessions, which are much quieter than the mornings. Opening on a Friday was also proposed.

It was further proposed that if the shed became extremely busy then perhaps a booking system may be of use and in a similar vein this could also apply to the use of the lathes.

As a way of encouraging more people to use the facility in the afternoon, a reduced fee of £2.50 was proposed. This is to be discussed further in the February committee meeting. In the mean time Ian is to email members for their reaction to this proposition along with Friday opening, commencing March 2019.

Health and safety matters and training along with first aid training to be organised. Alison the centre manager is to ask 'First responders' about first aid training for us. Future grant money could be used for this.

With health and safety in mind, February has been named spring clean month. Members are to be emailed asking if they can attend on Fridays or Saturdays to sort out and organise all areas of the shed. (workshop, Foyer, clean room and wood store) In order to accommodate all the excess timber in the store room (once sorted) it was proposed that we could offer

timber to the new Hednesford shed, tan house shed and the Albrighton centre. We could also use some timber by making kits to sell. A possible offsite storage facility could be used. Ivor to speak to Shaylor's and Mark to speak to WHG regarding this.

We have applied for a further £5000 grant from MCW (active) other sources for grant funds are constantly being sought.

An internet service is to be organised (the centre has now provided this via their guest facility).

As we have all but spent the lottery grant all major capital expenditure should be for the present be curtailed and any expenditure should be limited to running costs, consumable purchases and equipment maintenance.

The next scheduled committee, trustees meeting to be held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019.